minerals of the country durins the period of Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether arty sum has been allocated to the NMDC for this purpose; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND THE MUaSTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC) has sought prospecting licence (PL.) for gold and diamond in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya PriSesh and Karnataka and for iron ore in the States of Bihar and Orissa. With the grant of P.L. by the State Governments NMDC would take up systematic exploration of the minerals.

(c) NMDC will be funding the proposed exploration with its own resources.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

निर्यात/आयात नीति के कारण इस्पात उद्योग में मंदी

2152.**श्री रामजी लाल** : क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस्पात संयंत्रों में वर्तमान मंदी के कारण है,

(ख) क्या इस उद्योग में मंदी के लिए आयात या निर्यात नीति जिम्मेदार है, और

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षो के दौरान उत्पादित इस्पात और निर्यात किए गए इस्पात का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

इस्पात मंत्री तथा खान मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद वैश्य) : (क) 1996-97 के दौरान परिसज्जित कार्बन इस्पात का उत्पादन अब तक का अधिकतम 227.2 लाख टन हुआ जो पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में 6.17% प्रतिशत अधिक है ।

(ख) उपरोक्त (क) को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान परिसज्जित इस्पात का उत्पादन और निर्यात नीचे दिया गया है :-

(दस लाख टन)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
उत्पादन	17.82	21.40	22.72
निर्यात	0.92	1.07	1.62

Number of steel plants in the country

2153. SHRI V. RAJAN CHEL-LAPPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing Steel plants in India alongwith the names of the public sector/joint sector, State-wise; and

(b) the investment made in each plant?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) There are six integrated steel plants and tw^ special sted plants in public sector. Besides these, there are seven electric are furnac© based steel plants in public/joint

sector. Statewise details are as follows:

State	Names of the Plants	Public/Joint Sector	Investment (apprx.) (Rs. in Crores)
Andhra Pradesh	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.	Central public sector	8231 (end 1996-97 Subject to audit)
	Andhra Pradesh Steals Ltd.	State Govt. Undetaking	Information is being collected.
Bihar	. Bokaro Steel Plant	Central public sector	3894
Haryana	. Haryana Concast Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Information is being collected.
Karnataka	. Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Ltd.	Cental public sector	181
Kerala	. Steel Complex Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Information is being collected.
Madhya Pradesh	. Bhilai Steel Plant	Central public sector	2431
	M.P. Alloy Castings Ltd.	, Joint Sector	Information is being collected.
Orissa	. Rourkela Steel Plant	Central public sector	5089
	m STEEL Ltd.	Joint sector	Information is being collected.
Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Steels Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Infonnation is being collected.
West Bungal	Durgapur Steel plant	Central public sector	5835
	Indian Iron & Steel Ltd.	Centra] public Co. sector	610
	Alloy Steels Plant	Central public sector	183
	National Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Information is being collected.

Surplus Steel produced by Bhilai Sited Plant

2154. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL;
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fa,ct that the Bhilai Steel Plant has produced much more steel than the demand;

(b) if so, the details of the excess produced steel by the Plant durins the last three years; and

(c) the action being taken by Go-vernment to market the excess steel of BSP in and outside the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AN0 THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) The office of the Development Com-missioner Iron and Steel assesses the